

QCDS Past President Prabha Krishnan To Be Vice President of the State Dental Association

By Marc Katz

Queens County Dental Society Past President Dr. Prabha Krishnan, a Forest Hills periodontist since 1993, has been elected to a one-year term as vice president of the New York State Dental Association. Following the sequence of NYSDA officers, she



Newly installed NYSDA Vice President Dr. Prabha Krishnan

would become president-elect next year and president of the Dental Association in 2024.

Elected by the House of Delegates along with Dr. Krishnan were Dr. James E. Galati of Schenectady, president; Dr. Anthony Coumo of Westchester, president-elect; Dr. Frank C. Barnashuk of Buffalo, treasurer; and Dr. Steven Gounardes of Brooklyn, speaker of the House of Delegates.

"I am committed to insuring a strong future for the New York State Dental Association," Dr. Krishnan said following her election. "I want to do what I can to work with all of the components to help them improve."

The last QCDS member to head NYSDA was Dr. Chad Gehani in 2011. Dr. Gehani, who went on to become president of the American Dental Association and is now the QCDS executive director, happened to be Dr. Krishnan's professor of endodontics when she was a graduate student at the New York University College of Dentistry. He recalled her as a student "who was always very knowledgeable and very quiet. But," he said, "quietness should not be taken as a lack of understanding. She was an A-plus student."

Dr. Gehani recalled that Dr. Krishnan liked to study and work on difficult cases and always finished her assignments ahead of time. "That is the sign of a good student and a good leader," he said.

Dr. Krishnan has been attending and chief of periodontics of the Department of Dentistry at Flushing Hospital Medical Center since 1995 and has served as an associate clinical professor of the Department of Periodontics at the New York University College of Dentistry.

Dr. Krishnan had been a member of the NYSDA House of Delegates from 2010-2015 and again from 2020 to the present, a NYSDA trustee from 2015-2019, a member of the Council on Dental Benefits from 2019 to the present, the Council on Governmental Affairs from 2009-2015 and she served as the chair of the Council from 2012-2014, the Council on Membership from 2000-2009, and a member of the NYSDA House of Delegates Reference Committee in 2014.

Also active in the American Dental Association, Dr. Krishnan serves as the vice chair of its Council on Communications. She was also a member of the Diversity and Inclusion Committee of the ADA Board. Dr. Krishnan was an ADA delegate from 2010-2015.

At QCDS, Dr. Krishnan was president in 2009. She has served as the chair of several Councils of QCDS.

She is a member of the Board of Directors of the Empire Dental Political Action Committee and the Board of Trustees of the Indian Dental Association. She has been a trustee of the New York State Dental Foundation since 2019 and has chaired its Annual Event Task Force since becoming a trustee.

"I really enjoy what I do," Dr. Krishnan said. "I want to make a difference in the profession and give back to it and the community in appreciation for all that it has done for me."



Former Queens County Dental Society President Dr. Prabha Krishnan, second from left, the newly elected New York State Dental Association vice president, is joined by fellow officers, left to right, Drs. Frank Barnashuk, treasurer; Anthony Coumo, president-elect; and James Galati, president.



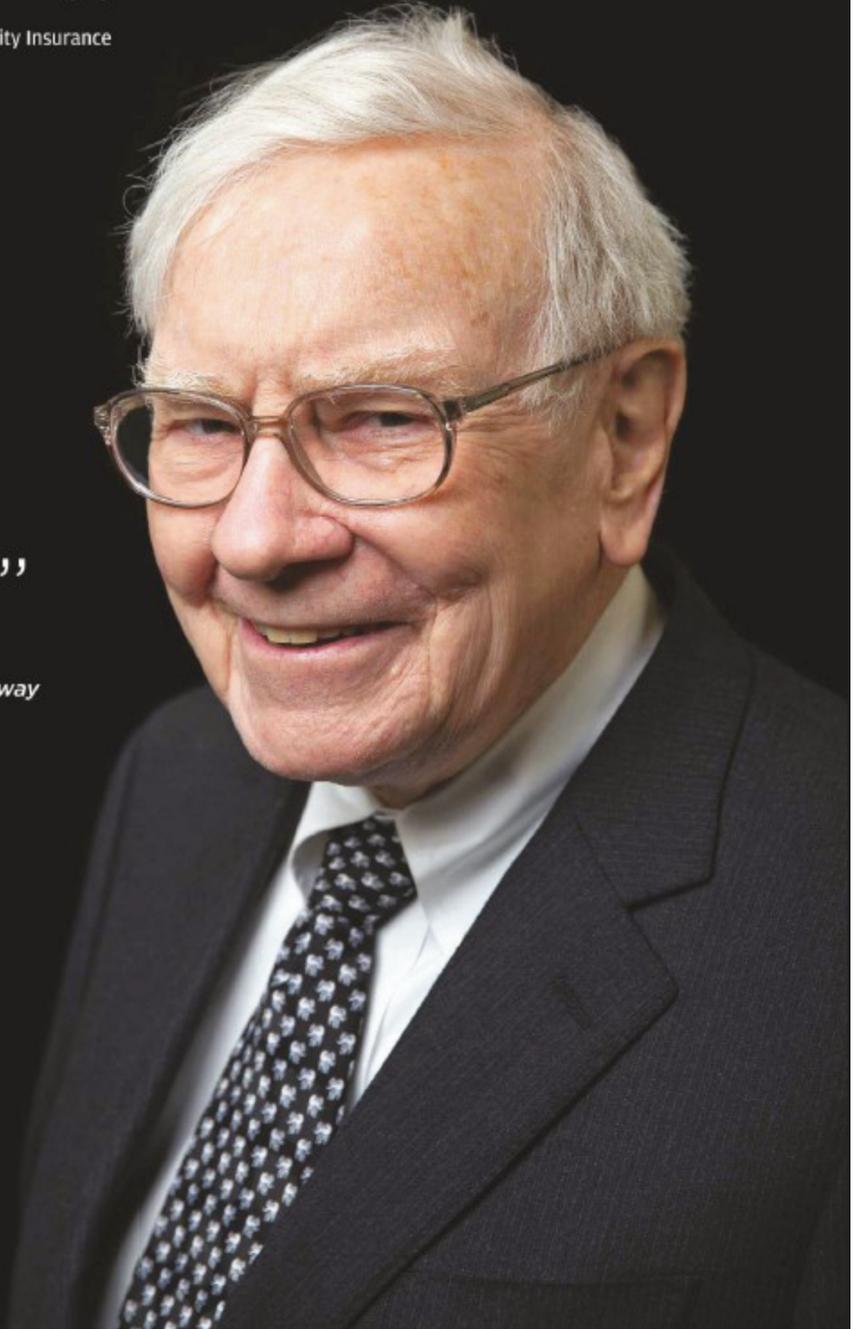
Congratulating former QCDS President Dr. Prabha Krishnan on her election at NYSDA vice president are, left to right, ADA President Dr. Cesar Sabates, Dr. Krishnan, former ADA president and QCDS Executive Director Dr. Chad Gehani, ADA Executive Director Dr. Raymond Cohlma, and Dr. Rekha Gehani, former chair of the ADA Council on Dental Education and Licensure.



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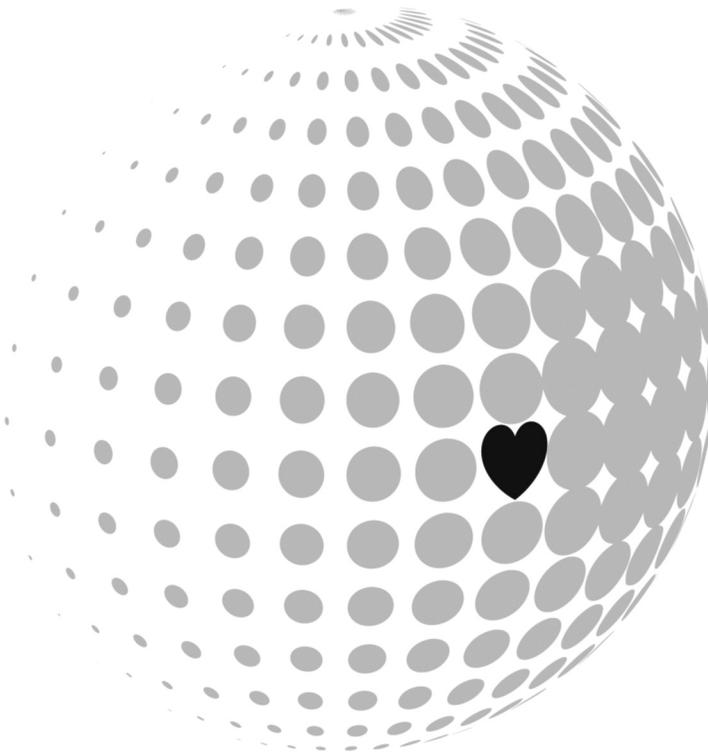
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From the President

hanettegomezdds@gmail.com

Join QCDS, See What We Are All About!

By Dr. Hanette Gomez

I am often asked about the role Queens County Dental Society, New York State Dental Association and the American Dental Association membership plays in the daily routine of dentists in their offices.

I see organized dentistry as having an extremely important role, but unfortunately it is not always perceived that way without some explaining. I talk to many dentists, asking them to be a member of the QCDS, NYSDA and the ADA. Often the answer I receive is that they are members of other dental organizations.

I remind them that there is strength in numbers and that the dental profession needs to stay united—now more than ever before. We were united in the fight against COVID-19 and the result was extremely successful. We provided better scientific information, with the goal of serving and protecting our patients, our members and our communities. Personal Protection Programs, EIDL grants and the free personal protection equipment were all made possible because of our unity on the federal level.

We have maintained the quality of our practice, including the treatment decisions made by us in consultation with our patients—without third party involvement. This is the main reason we need to be members of organized dentistry.

Patient dispute resolution by the Peer Review Committee is only offered to members of QCDS. This, alone, is a major member benefit. It is not reported to a databank and stays very private.

We also provide:

- Free monthly two-hour CE lectures to help fulfill the 60-hour CE requirement. We submit your earned CE credits to NYSDA for their free record keeping of your CE activity. This saves our members time and unnecessary paperwork.
- New York State mandated continuing education courses, including discussions about oral cancer, infection control, OSHA, BCLS, and many others.
- Discounted 16 hours of CE credits offered at the World's Fair of Dentistry.
- Peer review assistance in the resolution of disputes between a patient and their dentists, saving time and money.
- Advocacy at the New York State and federal level.
- Low-cost life insurance, disability programs and financial services from the American Dental Association.
- Practice management and marketing information. Innovations from the ADA Science and Research Institute ranging from research on the oral health effects of COVID-19 to the

use of zirconia dental materials.

- A Visa and MasterCard reduced discount program for patient use.

Membership also provides you with an opportunity to network with your peers. Membership gives you a voice in all things relating to dentistry. Your membership now means a strong and united voice.

We at QCDS have been working hard to create an atmosphere of community and collegiality. We hosted a fun-filled gathering of women dentists with practices in Queens in March. We also displayed great strength of unity by hosting gatherings of all dentists who practice in Queens.

We have successfully held many quality CE programs this year. We are about to host our annual World's Fair of Dentistry, where participants can earn up to 16 CEU hours, plus have an opportunity to enjoy a free breakfast and lunch with colleagues.

I am asking you to reach out to your colleagues to tell them about the advantages of organized dentistry, asking them to reach out to those who are not yet members of QCDS, to invite them join us. The process of becoming a QCDS member has been simplified requiring the touch of just one button. Here is the link: https://ebusiness.ada.org/Membership/TripartiteApplication.aspx?_ga=2.248377863.1418745963.1640626369-1728527499.1638213974.

I hope to see you at our programs and events soon!

Membership gives you a voice in all things affecting dentistry. Your membership now means a strong and united voice.

New Member Special

Tell a colleague about Queens County Dental Society membership. When they join, you will receive a coupon for \$50 OFF any QCDS Continuing Education program. For details about this special offer, available only during 2022, call QCDS 718-454-1020.



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QCDS Comes to the Aid of Queens Dentist Who Loses His Home to Devastating Fire

By Marc Katz

South Ozone Park dentist Dr. Salvador Gales lost his Roslyn Heights home to a fire in June, but the Queens County Dental Society was there to give him assistance in his time of need.

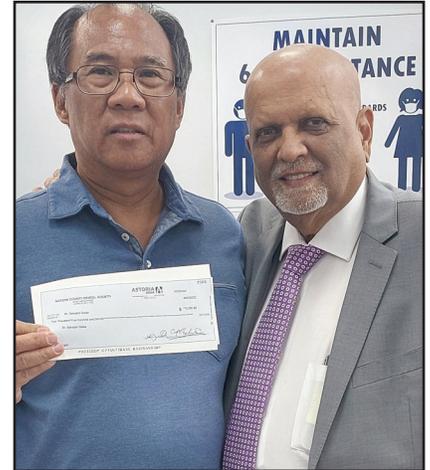
QCDS Executive Director Dr. Chad Gehani visited him after the devastating fire, bringing him a check for \$2,500 from the organization as a token of support. "We wanted to let Dr. Gales know that his professional brothers and sisters have his back," Dr. Gehani said. "Our Board wanted to present a symbol of love and support to a loyal member."

Dr. Gales said the fire started on a backyard deck and quickly consumed the entire two floors of the single-family house. Although his wife was able to

escape unhurt, the family's two dogs were lost in the blaze. Dr. Gales was not home at the time of the fire. The cause of the fire is currently being investigated and the family has been living in a nearby rented house for the past two months.

"I am very thankful for the support I have received from QCDS," Dr. Gales said. "The financial assistance I received from the Dental Society may not seem like big money, but it was certainly big money for us."

Dr. Gehani said Dr. Gales was always a devoted QCDS member and among the first to register for events. "Our message should be clear," he said. "QCDS stands behind our members in any way we can."



Queens County Dental Society member Dr. Salvador Gales, left, displays a check he received from QCDS Executive Director Dr. Chad Gehani as a sign of support following the total loss of his home due to a fire.

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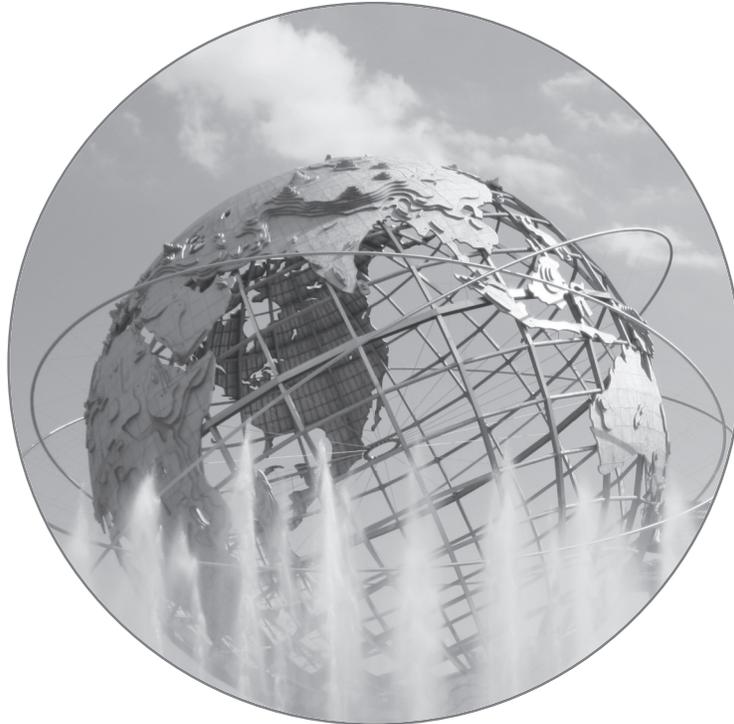


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Keep Permits Current To Avoid Penalties

By Martin Schnee

By now all dental facilities should have their permits up to date. Some dentists who are several years behind have received summonses by mail. To renew a permit, you will need to submit a signed renewal application, proof of disability insurance and proof of worker's compensation insurance. Be aware that you must use specific form numbers and include a copy of the summary page of your last CRESO inspection, within five years of renewal date. A check for \$100 must be included for every two years being requested dated from the last expiration day. If you do this online, you can only buy two years at a time, and then renew again until you are up-to-date. If you do this by mail, you can buy back two or three time periods at a time.

To renew by mail, request a renewal application by calling 212-487-4060. Send it to Licensing Bureau, 42 Broadway, 5th floor, New York, NY 10004.

To renew online, go to Google and type in nyc.gov/health-permits, hit enter and scroll down until you see "Renew Most Permits." Needed is your PIN number, which was assigned by the New York City Department of Consumer Affairs. If you are like most dentists, you ignored this number and will need to retrieve it or get a new PIN number. To apply for a new PIN number, go on Google to www1.nyc.gov/assets/doh/acceladohmh and click on the site that reads "Accela Contact Us Form - NYC.gov" to fill out the form. You will still need to submit the above items by scanning or attaching emails to renew. A handy number for assistance is 347-396-7975.

New permit should only take three to four weeks to arrive. If yours is not received, call 212-487-4060 to inquire. This is not the procedure for a new permit or for a change of ownership or address. If you owe the New York money for a fine, you can be denied a renewal.

Remember that dental inspections are every five years. Permits are every two years. CBCT requires its own separate permit and annual calibration with semi-annual tests.

Editor's Note: Information for this article is provided by Martin Schnee of Big Apple Radiation Safety, Inc. For further information about permit renewals he can be contacted at 718-9373-6348.

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If you have not yet renewed your membership, please do so as soon as possible.

Call the QCDS Executive Director at 718-454-1020 if you are experiencing temporary financial difficulties to explore possible options.



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Report Of The Nominating Committee

In accordance with QCDS Bylaws, the Committee met and considered all nominations that were received. The following Committee recommendations are made for 2023:

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President Elect: Pratix Shroff

Vice-President: Jayesh Trivedi

Secretary: Savitha Reddy

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ADA Delegates (Vote for 2)

Rekha Gehani Mitchell Greenberg

NYSDA Delegates (Vote for 7)

Rekha Gehani Prabhakar Koppikar Pratix Shroff Richard Yang
Mitchell Greenberg Hanette Gomez Arthur Feigenbaum

NYSDA Alternate Delegates (Vote for 3)

Bijan Anvar Robert Shpuntoff Beatrice Vallejo

NYSDA Alternate Delegates (Vote for 3)

Mitchell Greenberg

QCDS Board of Trustees (Vote for 25)

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In accordance with our Bylaws, any additional nominees for an elective office may only be made by written petition signed by twenty members in good standing and received by the Executive Director not later than ten days after the October 1st general membership meeting at which the report of the Nominating Committee is presented. No additional nominations, including nominations from the floor, shall be accepted for elective offices to be filled by a vote of the General Membership unless otherwise specifically provided in these Bylaws. Voting shall take place at the November 5th General Membership meeting.

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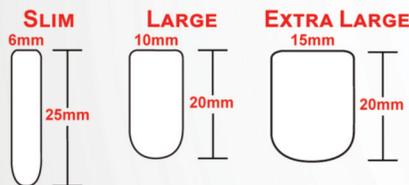
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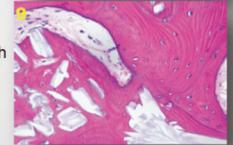
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